MANSFIELD WOODHOUSE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Annual Report

Of the Medical Officer of Health
For the Year 1925.

BY

ERNEST H. HOUFTON, M.D., M.R.C.S.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

INCLUDING THE

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector,

BY

EDWARD PARKER, M.S.I.A.

W. H, LEE & Sons, Stockwell Gate, Mansfield.



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To the Chairman and Members of the

Mansfield Woodhouse Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,—

Since the last Annual Report it has been our misfortune to lose the valued services of our Medical Officer of Health, Dr. E. H. Houfton, through a serious illness. I need not dwell on the depth of this loss to us all. You have all experienced, from time to time, his tireless energies and high capabilities during his tenure of office, and you will agree with me that his absence will be deeply regretted throughout the County.

In his absence from office, it has been my privilege to be entrusted with the duties of Medical Officer of Health, and in this capacity I have the honour to present to you the Report on the Health and Sanitary Work of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1925, as well as a Survey of the Work for the five years terminating on that date.

I should like to thank the members of the Council for the courtesy and support given me in my endeavours to carry on Dr. Houfton's work, and in this respect I would especially mention the Health Visitor and the Sanitary Inspector, who have been unceasing in their efforts to make my task a lighter one.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

NORMAN L. TWEEDIE.

Report of Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1925. NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area of water)	4,834
Population (Census 1921)	*13,477
Population (estimated 1925) taken from Registrar	
General's Returns)	14,480

The following information has been obtained from the Census returns of 1921, viz:—

Between the Census years of 1911 to 1921 the population increased by 2,462, representing an increase on the 1911 figures of 22.4 per cent. The average number of persons per acre at the 1921 Census in the Urban District of Mansfield Woodhouse was 2.8. The average for the County as a whole was 1.2 persons per acre; the Urban Districts being 6.4 and Rural Districts 0.3.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The district is gently undulating in character, and varies from 250 to 500 feet above sea level. It is served by two streams:—(1) The River Maun, which is almost in the centre, and runs from south to north (2) the River Meden, situate on the north side, and runs east to west. Both rivers join to form the river Idle, which ultimately discharges into the Trent.

On the north side is found magnesian limestone, whilst on the south is the new red sandstone.

Number of inhabited houses (1921)	*2,48	6
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)	*2,68	8
Rateable Value	5	0
Sum represented by a penny rate	16	6

^{*}Revised figures from Census Returns.

OCCUPATIONS.

The chief industry of the district is coal mining, in which 2,912 persons were employed in 1921.

The following extracts from the Census Returns for 1921 give the principal occupations of the inhabitants:—

	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Coal Mining	2909	3	2912
Textile Workers	121	381	502
Commercial and Financial	161	122	283
Metal Workers	147	126	273
Personal Service (domestic, etc.)	52	183	235
Builders, Bricklayers, Etc	156	2	158
Transport Workers	175	9	184
Makers of Textile Goods and			
Articles of Dress	23	135	158
Clerks, Typists, Etc.	93	43	136
Agriculture	129	3	132
Wood Workers	79	MINISTER STATE OF THE STATE OF	79
All other Occupations	374	175	549
	4419	1182	5601
			-

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

BIRTHS.

			Males.	Femal	es.
Legitimate	142	157			
Illegitimate	5	7			
			Total	• • • • •	311
Birth Rate (R.G.) .				21.4	

DEATHS.

Males. Females. Total 73 68 141

Death Rate (R.G.). — Crude, 9.7; Corrected, 11.1. Death Rate for England and Wales, 12.2.

The Corrected Death Rate of a town is the rate which would have been recorded had its age and sex-distribution been the same as that of the country as a whole.

NUMBER OF WOMEN DYING IN, OR IN CONSEQUENCE OF CHILDBIRTH.

From Sepsis N	one
From Other Causes	, ,
Total	one
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF	AGE
Legitimate	25 1
Total	<u>26</u>
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	3.6 one one

HOSPITALS PROVIDED.

Subsidised by Local Authority or County Council.

- (1) Tuberculosis—Mansfield.
- (2) Maternity—Nil.*

- (3) Children—Nil.*
- (4) Fever—Nil.
- (5) Smallpox—Arrangements are made with the Notting-ham Corporation.
- (6) Venereal Diseases—Treatment at Mansfield (County Council).

*Arrangements have been made with the Mansfield and District Hospital to admit children, where hospital treatment is thought necessary, at a fee of £1 10s. per week, and also complicated cases of maternity at a fee of 6s. per day, with two guineas for the doctor.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the district.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For Infectious Disease-None.

A closed motor van is available for removing infected bedding, etc., for disinfection.

(b) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.

One Red Cross Ambulance is available for use in the Borough of Mansfield and District.

The local Colliery Companies provide ambulances for their own accident cases.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The present arrangements comprise:—

- (a) A Clinic held every Tuesday afternoon at the Public Health Offices, Park Road, Mansfield Woodhouse.
- (b) A Clinic held every Monday afternoon at the Primitive Methodist School, Forest Town, since the 5th October, 1925.
- (c) A Clinic held every Thursday afternoon at the Public Health Offices, Park Road, Mansfield Woodhouse.

At the first two my partner or I attend and see such cases as the Health Visitor refers to us, or such cases as the mothers decide should be seen by the Medical Officer.

All cases from time to time come under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health in attendance. At these Clinics, besides infants under 12 months, older children up to five years are seen, and, in addition, any case of pregnancy which are referred by the Midwives, or come to the knowledge of the Health Visitor, are seen, examined, and advised.

During the year 310 births were registered in the Council's District, and, applying the Registrar General's corrections, it was found that the actual number was 311.

The total number of births notified during the year was 314.

The number of still-births notified was 9.

The incidence of puerperal fever, measles, whooping cough, epidemic diarrhoea, and poliomyelitis has been practically nil during the period under review. There has been only one case notified of ophthalmia neonatorum in the last five years, and, on minute investigation, this proved to be a case of conjunctivitis.

The total number of visits paid during the year was as follows, viz:—

First visits to infants	316
Subsequent visits	1777
Visits to children	1565
Ante-Natal visits	14
Clinic visits	171

BABIES' WELCOMES.

	Mansfield	Forest
	Woodhouse	Town
Number of times open	95	41
Nurse's attendances	91	39
Mothers' attendances	3645	823
Babies' attendances	2383	505
Children's attendances	1788	355

SALE OF INFANTS' FOODS.

	Mansfield	Forest
	Woodhouse	Town
Glaxo sold	734 lbs.	123 lbs.
Glaxo given	32 lbs.	
Virol sold	207 lbs.	105 lbs.
Ovaltine sold	385 tins	250 tins
Ovaltine given	2 tins	
Cristolax sold	40 tins	
Malt and Oil sold	15 tins	26 tins
Ambrosia sold	501 lbs.	
Ambrosia given	26 lbs.	
Roboleine sold	256 lbs.	
Roboleine given	4 lbs.	
Secway sold	14 tins	

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

*Medical Officer of Health:

ERNEST H. HOUFTON, M.D., M.R.C.S. (part time).

*Sanitary Inspector:

EDWARD PARKER, C.R. San: Inst: (whole time).

Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.

Lady Health Visitor:

MISS M. E. BROWN (whole time).

Junior Clerk:

R. Godson.

The Sanitary Inspector carries out the duties of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1925, under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.

**Contribution to salary is made by the County Council from Exchequer Grants.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) General.

The Mansfield and District Nursing Association provides a District Nurse.

(b) Infectious Disease.

Nil.

MIDWIVES.—Four Midwives regularly practice in the District. No subsidy provided. Several Midwives from Mansfield have attended cases in this District.

The inspection of Midwives is carried out by the Notts. County Council.

CHEMICAL WORK.

ARRANGEMENTS IN FORCE.—When there is a question of analysis to be made, specimens are usually sent to the Chemical Research Laboratories, London. Results have been satisfactory in the two cases arising.

LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYELAWS IN FORCE RELATING TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH, WITH DATE OF ADOPTION.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

January 1, 1890—The Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889. February 2, 1891—The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890. February 2, 1891—Parts I. and III. of the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890.

October 3, 1892-The Private Street Works Act, 1892.

June 7, 1899—The Public Health (Water) Act. 1878, Sections 6, 7, and 9, by Order of the Local Government Board.

August 23, 1910—Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907.

Part II. with the exception of Section 26.

Part III. with the exception of Section 43.

Part IV. with the exception of Sections 67 and 68.

April 1, 1913—The Notification of Births Act, 1907.

May 6, 1919—Baths and Wash-houses Acts, 1846-1899.

November 30, 1921—Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907.
Part VI.

ByE-Laws.

27th June, 1905—New Streets and Buildings.

20th June, 1905—Tents, Vans, Sheds, and similar structures.

10th July, 1907—Timbers and Height of Rooms.

13th Dec., 1909—Cemetery.

29th June, 1907—Light Railways.

13th Nov., 1909—Nuisances.

19th Oct., 1909—Slaughter-houses.

25th Sept., 1923—Pleasure Grounds.

6th Aug., 1902—Regulations with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops within the District.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

Water is obtained in bulk through meters from the mains of the Mansfield Corporation, the source of such supply being deep wells at Rainworth and Clipstone, sunk into the Bunter Beds of the Trias. The supply to the Urban District is constant, sufficient, and satisfactory.

The whole of the dwelling-houses and works, with the exception of 12 outlying farmhouses, etc., derive their supplies from the public mains.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The sink drains of about 30 houses at Pleasley Vale in the north-west corner of the Urban District are connected to two cesspools, which have overflows into a stream discharging into the River Meden.

This is practically the only instance in the District where pollution may take place.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are two separate schemes of Sewage Disposal in the Urban District, one for the Mansfield Woodhouse portion and one for the Forest Town portion.

Sewage from the former is received into precipitation tanks at the Pumping Station, thence pumped into a receiving tank at the Sewage Farm on Peafield Lane, and then distributed under the Broad Land Irrigation System over an area of 55 acres, and ultimately discharging into the Flood Dyke. This system is at the moment adequate for present requirements, but with the ultimate conversion of the whole of the pail closets and privies into the water carriage system, consideration will, of necessity, have to be given to the question of the efficient treatment of such sewage.

The scheme for the disposal of sewage at Forest Town consists also of precipitation tanks, from which the sewage is pumped into chambers on land adjacent to New Mill Lane, and thence under the Broad irrigation System on to 5 acres of land, and this effluent finally discharges into the River Maun. Whilst this scheme is satisfactory for the sewage now dealt with, this portion of your district is developing rapidly, and a combined scheme for the provision of an intercepting sewer and Sewage Disposal Works for part of the Borough of Mansfield, part of your Urban District, and certain parishes in the area of the Southwell Rural District Council was approved by the Council in December, 1924, your proportion of the estimated cost being £8,000.

When this scheme is in operation it will be possible to abandon the Forest Town Sewage Pumping Station and Disposal Site, and also deal effectively with the disposal of the sewage from this area.

The sewers and drains within the District are satisfactory and adequate, except in case of heavy storms, when properties in certain low-lying portions of the District are subject to flooding. It is hoped to remedy this within the course of the next few months.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF HOUSES AND SANITARY CONVENIENCES IN THE DISTRICT AT THE END OF YEAR 1925.

	Mansfield		Forest	
	Woo	dhouse.	Town.	
	North	West	East	
	Ward.	Ward.	Ward.	Total.
Inhabited Houses	1076	1264	457	2797
Privies	193	76	12	281
Wet Ashpits	105	40	10	155
Pail Closets	107	227	4	338
Dry Ashpits	110	84	2	196
Water Closets	801	1088	488	2377
Ashbins	594	925	424	1943

CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

During the year 1924 an arrangement was made with the Bolsover Colliery Company Limited for the conversion of 320 pail closets to w.c's. at the village of Forest Town.

The owners agreed to pay one-third of the estimated cost.

This work was carried out by contract with the Council, and completed in May, 1925. Other 11 pails were converted in that area, thus practically abolishing pail closets in the East Ward.

A similar policy has been adopted in the Woodhouse portion of the district, where owners are willing to pay one-third of the cost, but the Council are desirous of dealing generally with the privies first. It is proposed to carry out privy conversions under the provisions of Section 39 (4) of the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907, by instalments, and a start has already been made.

It is hoped to abolish the privies as soon as possible, having due regard to financial considerations.

The number of closet conversions actually carried out during the year 1925 was as follows, viz:—

Pail Closets converted to w.c.'s.	337
Privies converted to w.c.'s	1
Privies abolished	3
Additional w.c.'s provided to houses and premises	2
Wet ashpits abolished	3

SCAVENGING.

The collection and disposal of house refuse is carried out by direct labour under the control of the Council's Surveyor.

Records of work done are kept by the Sanitary Inspector.

The following table indicates the alterations in number and type of sanitary conveniences in the District at the end of the years 1920 and 1925.

			Dry	Pail		
Year	Privies	*Middens	Ashpits	Closets	Ashbins	W.C.'s.
1920	337	187	193	677	1592	1625
1925	281	155	196	338	1943	2377
*/	Attached to	privies.				

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL, YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1925.

	/			
Method	Dry Ashpits and Ashbins	Wet Ashpit Refuse	Pail Closet Refuse	Total No. of Loads
Team Labour	5422	561	488	Removed 6471
Mechanical Labour	3012	320		3332
Total Loads	8434	881	488	9803

There was a decrease of 572 loads of pail closet refuse due to the conversion of 335 pail closets during the year. There was, however, an increase of 785 loads of dry refuse removed during the year.

Ashbins are emptied once a week, with the exception of one street, where they are emptied twice weekly.

Ashpits and Privies are cleansed on an average once per month.

Pail Closets are now emptied twice weekly.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Dry ashpit and bin refuse is chiefly disposed of at the Candlemas Cliff tip, which is situated a good distance from houses, and no complaint has been received in respect of the same.

It has been found possible to tip some refuse at the Parliament Quarry tip, but this cannot last much longer.

As stated in previous reports, the extra haulage to Candlemas Cliff has involved additional cost in scavenging.

Pail closet and privy refuse is diminishing in quantity, and is disposed of on allotments or agricultural land.

No complaint has been made in respect of refuse disposal.

GENERAL.

Owing to the number of houses with two families, and overcrowding conditions, the quantity of refuse is excessive. The refuse is also very heavy, owing to the large amount of waste in the coal supplied to miners' houses.

The staff engaged in house refuse removal consists of 1 Foreman, 3 Horse Drivers, 1 Motor Driver, 7 Labourers, including 1 man chiefly employed in keeping the tips in order.

The transport consists of 3 horses and carts and 1 ton Ford lorry.

The regular staff was insufficient to cope with the work during the winter months, and extra labour had to be employed.

Public Health Offices,

Park Road,

Mansfield Woodhouse.

To the Chairman and Members of the Mansfield Woodhouse Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit my Report on sanitary inspections and work carried out during the year 1925.

The past year will be remembered for the serious and costly outbreak of Smallpox. This caused a great deal of work, and interfered to some extent with other normal duties.

A considerable number of sanitary improvements were carried out. The conversion of 331 pail closets to w.c.'s at Forest Town will certainly have a good effect on the health of the inhabitants in that portion of the district.

I much regret the unfortunate illness of Dr. E. H. Houfton, your Medical Officer of Health. It has been my pleasure to serve under his direction since my appointment in the year 1911.

I again beg to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, and the Officials for assistance and co-operation in the discharge of my duties.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD PARKER,

Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1925.

YEAR 1925.	
Appointments kept	. 88
Written complaints received	
Correspondence—letters sent out	
Informal Notices	
Informal Letters	. 70
Houses disinfected	. 198
NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTION	NS MADE.
Visits to Infectious Disease	. 752
,, Works in progress	142
,, Nuisances	
,, Slaughter-houses and Meat Inspection	. 349
,, Cowsheds and Dairies	. 56
,, Purveyors and Milkshops	. 29
,, Bakehouses	. 22
,, Factories	. 19
,, Workshops	. 26
,, Offensive Trades	. 9
,, Outworkers	. 1
,, Food Premises	139
,, Schools	31
,, Workplaces (stables, etc.)	. 6
,, Other causes	. 26
Total number of visits	3108
INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.	UNDER
	No. of
Hou	ises inspected.
For Infectious Disease	119
Complaints of Nuisances	327
Total	446

Number of houses where sanitary defects were found Other houses where defects were found	329 584
Total	913

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS 1910—1925.

The number of houses inspected under the above Regulations was 20, in which 90 defects were found to exist. The defects, though numerous, were not of a serious character, and there was no question of serving Closing Orders.

Particulars of Defects remedied in Houses as a result of Housing Inspections.

Most of the houses referred to were inspected during the year 1924.

Water supply provided to wash-house	1
Pail closets converted to w.c.'s	2
Closet accommodation repaired	6
House or yard drains repaired	3
W.C. drain repaired	1
Sink wastes repaired	2
Dampness remedied in houses	12
House roofs repaired	8
House walls repaired	8
House floors repaired	3
Plaster to walls or ceilings repaired	8
Spouting or fallpipes repaired or cleansed	6
Yard paving repaired	8
Ashpit repaired	1
Fireplaces repaired	7
Other defects remedied	8
Total defects remedied	84
Number of houses where remedied	30
	-

SANITARY DEFECTS REMEDIED IN HOUSES.

(Other than defects remedied under the Housing Acts).

Houses cleansed	4
W.C.'s cleansed or limewashed	2
Overcrowding abated	6
Dampness remedied	100
Roofs, walls. floors, etc., repaired	77
Ceilings or wall plaster repaired	37
Eaves spouting or fallpipes repaired or cleansed	120
House drains cleansed	118
W.C. drains cleansed	106
House drains repaired or relaid	18
W.C. drains repaired or relaid	19
New sinks fixed	5
Sink wastes, etc., repaired	19
Privies converted to W.C.'s	1
Additional W.C.'s erected	1
W.C.'s repaired	58
Privies or Pail Closets repaired	64
Ashpits or Middens repaired	34
Closet Pails renewed	35
Ashbins provided or renewed	160
Yard paving provided or repaired	58
Water supply reinstated	1
Animal nuisances remedied	1
Coppers and fireplaces repaired or renewed	42
Other house nuisances remedied	62
Total nuisances remedied	1148
Number of houses where remedied	881

OTHER NUISANCES REMEDIED.

Accumulations removed	10
Outpremises drained or redrained	2
Cowsheds limewashed	5
Slaughter-houses limewashed	5
Alterations to W.C.'s.	2
Other outside nuisances remedied	23
Total nuisances remedied	47

STATUTORY NOTICES.

Served during the year 1925.

	No, of houses No. of		Re	sult of Notices.
Description of Notice.	1100303		Complied	Remarks.
Public Health Act, 1875.				
Section 91—Nuisances	82	44	43	1 not complied
Section 36—Ashbins	33	19	19	
" Closet Pails	1	1	1	
Section 39 (4) Public				
Health (Amendment)				
Act, 1907	59	8	Nil.	8 in hand.
Statutory Notices	175	72	63	9
Informal Notices	738	273	252	21 in hand.
Totals	913	345	315	30 in hand.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

With the exception of two collieries, there are no works producing a large amount of smoke in the district.

No complaint was received or action required in this matter during the year.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

Number of cowkeepers on register	19
Number of cowsheds in occupation	30
Approximate number of milk cows kept	170
Number of cowkeepers selling milk by retail	13
Number of Registered Retail Purveyors of milk	29**
Number of Registered Wholesale Purveyors of milk	2†
Number of shops selling milk by retail	6

*This number includes 8 whose premises are outside the District, and 5 retailers who only sell milk in stoppered bottles.

†Sterilised milk only.

New floors were provided in two cowsheds during the year. Inspections of Dairies, Cowsheds, and Purveyors' premises, 85.

Purveyors' premises have been kept clean and satisfactory.

In a few cases it was necessary to give verbal notice for the limewashing of cowsheds, which were complied with.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES AND CELLAR DWELLINGS.

None situated within the district.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Two premises in the district, viz:—

One tripe boiler.

One tripe boiler and sausage casing manufacturer.

The premises were kept in a sanitary condition, and free from complaints during the year.

Visits to above—9.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

This trade is not classified as offensive in your District. Some trouble arose in respect of one shop newly erected in the latter part of 1924. The premises were improved later, and allowed to be occupied.

Suitable regulations might be of advantage in dealing with these premises, although generally they are kept in a good sanitary condition.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

(See Meat Inspection).

Of these there are five. They have been kept satisfactory, and limewashed when required. Improvement in drainage, etc., was made at one premises.

PIG-KEEPING.

No special difficulty or complaint has been made with regard to pigstyes.

Where nuisances occurred the same were remedied.

TENTS, SHEDS, AND CARAVANS.

There is a tendency, owing to the serious housing shortage, for the occupation of the above as dwellings.

In some cases overcrowding and insanitary conditions arose, and in one case it was necessary to serve a Notice for overcrowding.

SCHOOLS.

The elementary schools in the district are, with one exception, of modern type, and all are in a good sanitary condition.

All Schools are provided with a public supply of water, and water closets.

The yards are well paved, and the schools are maintained in a cleanly state.

During the prevalence of Smallpox the schools affected were frequently disinfected.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. Factories.

There are 11 Factories in the district, including 2 Factory Bakehouses. 8 of the Factories are small, and employ few hands. One new Factory (Joiners and Builders premises) was commenced during the year. An external iron staircase was provided to the Hosiery

Factory in Grove Street during the year, and approved by the Council, as a means of escape in case of fire.

Visits to Factories—19.

WORKSHOPS.

The number of Workshops on the Register is 19, excluding 4 retail Bakehouses, where there are no employees.

The Workshops have been kept in a good sanitary condition, and no complaint has been received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in respect of them.

Inspection of Workshops and Workplaces—32.

BAKEHOUSES.

These comprise 2 factory, 2 workshop, and 4 domestic bake-houses. They have been kept in a cleanly state and limewashed as required. In one case the walls of the bakehouse did not comply with the requirements of the Factory and Workshops Act. This matter is receiving attention.

Visits to Bakehouses-22.

OUTWORKERS.

Only one outworker was notified during the year.

OTHER MATTERS.

Notifications of new Workshops received from H.M. Inspector of Factories—1.

Complaints received from H.M. Inspector of Factories—Nil. There are no underground Bakehouses in the district.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

The Sanitary Inspector is the Officer appointed under the Act.

NATIONAL RAT WEEK.

Special circulars were sent out to persons whose premises appeared likely to be infested with rats or mice.

Printed posters calling the attention of the public to National Rat Week were placarded throughout the district.

There is no doubt that this publicity has a good effect.

At Forest Town the Secretary of the Garden Holders' Association informed me that 103 rates were destroyed during Rat Week. GENERAL.

30 rats were destroyed on Council premises by dogs and ferrets during the year, and 16 dead rats were found after the use of prepared baits.

Over 1,000 barium carbonate or red squill baits were used, in addition to other preparations, on Council premises, and most of the baits were taken.

HOUSING.

GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS.

There is a serious shortage of houses in the district, consequently it has been impossible to close houses which are beyond the repair stage. A considerable number of houses have been improved and repaired during the past five years.

At the end of 1925 the estimated number of houses was 2,797, and the estimated population was 14,480.

Average number of persons per house 5.17.

It will thus be seen that the housing shortage is much the same as five years ago.

EXTENT OF SHORTAGE.

There are over 400 applicants on the Council's waiting list for houses. The majority of these are young married couples living in rooms of houses intended for one family only.

On the Council's Butt Lane Housing Estate of 108 houses, 33 were occupied by more than one family in December, 1925.

200
48
120
368

MEASURES TAKEN TO MEET THE SHORTAGE.

The Council have already erected 108 houses on the Butt Lane Estate. These were completed during the year 1922.

The Council have undertaken a further scheme, which has been approved by the Ministry of Health, for the erection of another 108 houses. Of these, it is intended to erect 78 in the Woodhouse portion of the district, and 30 at Forest Town.

The Ministry of Health have sanctioned the erection of 40 houses by direct labour on the Slant Lane Site, Mansfield Woodhouse. The work was commenced on the 14th December, 1925, in respect of the first 12 houses.

The Council are assisting private enterprise in building houses, by lump sum grants under the Housing Acts.

OVERCROWDING.

The extent of overcrowding has been indicated above.

It is estimated that there are at least 200 families living under overcrowding conditions.

CAUSES.

Overcrowding is chiefly due to the fact that house building practically ceased during the war years, and failed to cope with the housing needs in a growing district. Owing to the sinking of new collieries in the vicinity there is a large demand for houses which is not met by private enterprise.

MEASURES TAKEN TO DEAL WITH OVER-CROWDING.

Practically nothing can be done until more houses are available. Principal cases of overcrowding dealt with during the year 1925:

(1) 2 Families—10 occupants in 3-roomed house.

Remedied on Informal Notice.

- (2) 2 Families—14 occupants in 5-roomed house. Verbal Notice (not remedied). Applicants for Council house.
- (3) 2 Families—9 occupants in 3-roomed house. Remedied on Verbal Notice.
- (4) 4 Families—14 occupants in 5-roomed house. Remedied on Verbal Notice.
- (5) 3 Families—10 occupants in 5-roomed house. 2 cases of Tuberculosis.

Informal Notice complied with.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

Most houses in the district are of working class type, and there are about 500 old cottages.

The majority of the houses are brick built and contain 3 bedrooms, parlour, living-room, and scullery.

GENERAL CHARACTER OF DEFECTS FOUND IN UNFIT HOUSES.

The principal defects in the old houses are as follows, viz:— Insufficient air space and ventilation around the houses.

Defects in lighting, and lack of through ventilation.

Dilapidated roofs, walls, floors, etc.

Low height of rooms.

Absence of proper food storage.

Lack of sinks and water supplies in houses, with proper drainage to same.

Lack of accommodation for washing clothes.

Insufficient or defective closet accommodation and paving to yards.

In the modern houses the chief defects are in respect of dilapidations of walls, roofs, and floors, dampness, defective eaves, spouting, and fallpipes, dilapidated plaster to walls and ceilings. Defects in closet accommodation, midden privies, pail closets, common back yards, and defective paving to same. The midden privies and pail closets are gradually being replaced by w.c.'s.

How far Defects are Due to Lack of Proper Management and Supervision by Owners, or by Acts of Waste or Neglect by Tenants.

Many houses are not well built, and are constantly falling into dis-repair. This is accelerated in some cases by subsidence due to colliery workings. Consequently the repairs on working-class houses are costly and increasing. In most cases the rents are collected by Agents, whose chief concern is to collect rents, and little thought is given to management.

There are many instances of acts of misuse and neglect on the part of tenants, causing damage to property.

In many instances houses, yard surfaces, and sanitary conveniences are not kept in a cleanly state.

General Action taken as regards Unfit Houses under:—

(a) THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Urgent matters are dealt with as they arise under the Public Health Acts.

(b) THE HOUSING ACTS.

The housing shortage is so serious that it is still impracticable to close unfit houses.

No notices were served during the year 1925 under the Housing Acts, and, owing to the excessive work in connection with Smallpox, little time was available for systematic house inspection.

So far as possible the repairs required to houses are carried out by informal action.

DIFFICULTIES IN REMEDYING UNFITNESS.

No special difficulty has arisen in the matter of repair work. The attention of tenants is called to any acts of neglect, damage, or nuisance, and in some cases this has a good effect.

There are practically no back to back houses in the district.

Conditions so far as They Affect Housing as Regards Water Supply, Closet Accommodation, and Refuse Disposal with Measures Taken During the Year.

These matters are dealt with elsewhere in this Report.

The water supply to houses is very satisfactory.

Closet accommodation is receiving attention.

Privies and Pail Closets are being gradually converted to w.c.'s.

The disposal of refuse has been carried out without nuisance to householders, but a more frequent collection of house refuse during the winter months is desirable.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

No complaints were received or representations made in regard to unhealthy areas.

In the "Form of Survey of Housing Needs" submitted by the Council to the Ministry of Health in October, 1919, four small areas, comprising a total of seventy-three houses, were scheduled as areas which may have to be dealt with as Unhealthy Areas under the Housing Acts. The population of these areas was then 297.

No further action beyond repair work has been carried out, and it may be possible to deal with them in another manner when the time is opportune.

BYELAWS RELATING TO HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS —TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, Etc.

No byelaws in force with regard to Houses let in Lodgings.

With regard to Tents, Sheds, and Vans, the existing Byelaws, as extended by Section 43 of the Public Health Act, 1925, are considered satisfactory. In dealing with overcrowding, a definite standard of cubic space in caravans, and provision for the separation of sexes would be an advantage.

GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Any Action Taken by the Authority to Provide Information as to the Proper Use of Household Fittings, (e.g., Sinks, Water Closets, Etc.), and the Disposal of Household Refuse, so far as Possible, by Burning.

Handbills have been printed for circulation to householders on the proper use of Water Closets and Ashbins, especially in cases of closet conversions. Such handbills direct the attention of occupiers to their responsibility for any damage or misuse of w.c.'s, and request them to burn, so far as practicable, all combustible house refuse.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925. Number of new houses erected during the year:— Total (including numbers given separately under (b)..... 85 (a) (b) With State Assistance under Housing Acts:— (a) By the local authority—None. By other bodies or persons—79. (b) Unfit Dwelling-Houses. Inspection.—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 347 (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 20 (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation None. (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding subhead found not to be in all respects reason-

ably fit for human habitation

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2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Notices.	FORMAL
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	249
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS. 19. Proceedings under Sec. 3 of the Housing (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which	1 Hct, 190
notices were served requiring repairs	None.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service by formal notices:—	
(a) by owners(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	None. None.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance	
of declarations by owners of intention to close	None.
B—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	82
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	02
(a) By owners	88
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	None.
C—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14, and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	None.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	None

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. MILK SUPPLY.

A large proportion of the milk supply is produced within the district.

All Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops are Registered, and are under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector.

A Veterinary Surgeon is appointed to inspect the milk beasts periodically—a copy of his report is appended.

The bulk of the milk is sold from cans and churns. Two whole-salers bring Sterilised Milk in stoppered bottles for sale in retail shops, and one purveyor has a supplementary licence to retail pasteurised milk in sealed bottles.

The purveyors' premises have been brought up to the requirements of the Acts and Orders appertaining thereto.

There is need for improved methods on the part of some cowkeepers in the production of clean milk.

- (1) Action taken as to tuberculous milk and tuberculous cattle. (See Veterinary Inspector's report).
- (2) Milk sold under special designations.

Only one Supplementary Licence was applied for and granted for the sale of pasteurised milk. The premises are situated outside the district.

(3) No action has been taken or required in respect of the refusal of licences, or revocation of registration of retailers of milk. No graded milk other than pasteurised is sold in the district.

VETERINARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

12th March, 1926.

Dear Sir,--

During the past year I have inspected the milk cows in the Urban District of Mansfield Woodhouse once every quarter, as per my Reports.

Four cows during the year were condemned with tuberculosis of the lungs, and were destroyed, the rest of the animals I found on my inspections to be in good condition and free from disease.

Yours truly,

THOMAS LUDLOW, M.R.C.V.S.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Meat traders and grocers selling bacon and ham were notified of the requirements of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, and the premises inspected.

Notices of Slaughter.

In all cases the butchers have given written notice of the days and hours when it is their regular practice to slaughter animals.

Animals slaughtered at other times are subject to special notice.

The butchers generally have endeavoured to comply with the Notices of Slaughter. In one or two cases it was found necessary to complain.

The inspection of meat is carried out at the time of slaughter, or as soon afterwards as possible. This work takes up a considerable amount of time.

The marking of carcases after inspection was not considered practicable in this district.

Disease was found to exist in the carcases or organs on 19 occasions, and the butchers willingly surrendered what was considered unfit for food.

Diseased carcases, or parts, are treated with paraffin, and disposed of at a knacker's yard by boiling down for fertilisers, the salvage value being paid to the owners.

In the case of organs, these are disposed of by burying or burning, as circumstances allow.

STALLS, SHOPS, STORES, AND VEHICLES AS AFFECTED BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

There is no market or meat stalls in use in the district.

All shops have windows capable of being closed.

Attention was called to vehicles conveying meat, where not satisfactory, and the matters have received attention.

In nine cases it was necessary to ask for alteration or improvement to Meat Shops and Stores. In all cases the defects were remedied after informal or verbal notice.

In three cases of w.c.'s, ventilated into meat shops or stores, these were remedied.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

	In 1920.	In January, 1925.	In December, 1925.
Registered	1	1	1
Licensed	4	4	4
		Married Married	
Total	5	5	5

There is no public slaughter-house in the district.

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following diseased or unsound meat and other foods were surrendered and dealt with during the year.

Description.	Cause.	Quantity.
1 Cow Beast	Tuberculosis	Whole carcase and
		organs.
1 Cow Beast	Emaciation	do.
2 Pigs	Tuberculosis	do.
Part Beast	do.	160 lbs. beef plus
		head and lungs.
do	do.	head and all inter-
		nal organs.
Beast Organs	do.	Internal organs.
Pig	do.	Pluck and spleen.
Beef	Bone taint, etc.	108 lbs.
Beast Organs	Tuberculosis or	7 livers.
	Fluke	4 sets lungs.
TINNED GOODS.		
Fruit	Blown or Unsound	48 tins.
Fish	do.	11 tins.
Condensed Milk	do.	7 tins.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 8 bakehouses. These have been kept in a cleanly state, and limewashed as required.

Inspections—22.

In one case (a new domestic bakehouse) the walls did not comply with the requirements, and a notice was served.

Handling of Bread.

A quantity of bread comes into the district by covered van, and one sees instances of careless handling. The wrapping of bread in clean paper appears to be coming into vogue in some up-to-date bakehouses, and this is a decided improvement.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The administration of the Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts, and the Milk and Cream Regulations is carried out by the Notts. County Council.

The following information has been kindly supplied by Mr. E. Templeman, Chief Inspector.

REPORT OF PUBLIC ANALYST

upon articles analysed by him and taken in the Urban District of Mansfield Woodhouse, during the year ended 31st December, 1924.

	No. of	Result of
Article.	Samples.	Analysis.
Coffee	1	Genuine
Cream (Pure)	1	
Flour (Self-Raising)	2	
Gin	1	
Margarine	1	
Milk	7	
Beef Sausages		
Epsom Salts		
Rice (Ground)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Rice		5 7
Vinegar	1	*Adulterated.
Total	<u> </u>	

^{*3.5} per cent. deficient in Acetic Acid. Deficiency too small to warrant a prosecution. Vendor Cautioned.

INFORMAL SAMPLES OF MILK.

Tested by the Inspectors by "Gerber" Tester.

	No.	Correct. Incorrect.
No. of Samples taken by Inspectors	50	50
No. of Samples submitted by Milk		
Retailers or Producers to the		
Inspectors	4	4
Total	54	54

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table gives the number of cases of Notifiable Diseases occurring during the years 1921 to 1925.

Disease.		Total Cases Notified during the years					Total deaths r 5 years 921-1925
JJISEASE.	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	cases Notified	Tot dea for 5 y 1921-
Small-pox Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) Puerperal Fever Pneumonia Other Diseases generally	$\begin{vmatrix} - \\ 33 \\ 10 \end{vmatrix}$	40 7 3 26	5 26 4 — 6	41 126 6 — 11	156 43 2 — — 16	202 268 29 — 5 70	Nil 5 2 Nil 3 30
Notifiable:— Erysipelas Tuberculosis:— (a) Pulmonary	4 8	6	7 32	29		*101	2 49
(b) Non-Pulmonary Encephalitis Lethargica Poliomyelitis Other Diseases	1 -	3	5	6	6	24 3 1	10
Notifiable Locally: Chicken-pox			16	126	77	219	Nil

^{*}Many cases only came to our knowledge after death and had not been previously notified.

Notification of diseases notifiable under Regulations of 7th January, 1919, viz.:—Pneumonia, malaria, dysentry, and trench fever have been nil, and throw no light on the incidence of fresh cases of those diseases.

GENERAL.

No Isolation Hospital is available except for cases of Smallpox, consequently all other infectious cases have to be nursed at home.

The cases are visited by the Sanitary Inspector, and instructions given as to the best practicable means of isolation (in some cases isolation is impossible).

Disinfectants are supplied to the occupants free of charge.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISINFECTION.

The Council have no facilities for the cleansing of verminous persons.

A "Thresh" low pressure steam disinfector is available for the disinfection or disinfestation of clothing and bedding. This work is carried out in all cases where considered necessary or desirable.

A covered motor van is provided for removing bedding, etc., for disinfection.

The following table gives particulars of disinfection work carried out during the year 1925:—

Beds. 298	ARTICLES DIS Bedding 2007		D BY STEAM. Miscellaneous. 1562	Total. 5483
	NUMBER OF	HOUSES	DISINFECTED.	
	Scarlet Fever	0.00 0.00	39	
	Smallpox			
	Diphtheria		1	
	Tuberculosis		12	
	Other causes			
	Total houses	disinfected	 198	
	Total rooms	disinfected	730	

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN

TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1925.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted T to Hospital	otal Deaths
Smallpox	156	156	Nil.
Diphtheria	2	Nil.	,,
Scarlet Fever	43	, ,	, ,
Enteric Fever (Including Paraty-			
phoid)	Nil.	,,	, ,
Puerperal Fever	, ,	, ,	9 3
Pneumonia	16	,,	13
Other Diseases generally notifiable			
(Specify Disease).			
Erysipelas	5	, ,	Nil.
Encephalitis Lethargica	Nil.	Nil.	,,
Poliomyelitis	, ,	9 9	,,
Other Diseases Notifiable locally.			
(Specify Disease).			
Chickenpox	77	1	,,

SMALLPOX CASES.

Table Showing the incidence of Smallpox in Wards during the year 1925.

	STORY STREET	11.77		
Year No 1925	of cases of Sn North	nallpox notifi West	ed in Wards.	Total cases
1923	North	West	East	normed.
January		6		6
February	4	21	2	27
March	2	14	—	16
April	2	29		31
May		26		26
June	2	11	1	14
July	5	10	1	16
August	1*	11		12
September		8		8
October				
November				
December			_	
	16	136	4	156

^{*}Excluding one case notified as Smallpox and diagnosed later as Chickenpox.

SMALL-POX AND VACCINAL CONDITIONS.

The following table gives the age periods and vaccinal conditions of the one hundred and fifty-six cases.

Age Periods	No. of cases	Va cc inal Conditions	Remarks.
1 to 5 years	16	Unvaccinated	
5 to 10 years	38	Unvaccinated	.*
10 to 15 years	33	31 Unvaccinated 2 Vaccinated Inf?	No marks visible
15 to 20 years	23	22 Unvaccinated 1 Vaccinated Inf.	,
20 to 35 years	26	24 Unvaccinated 2 Vaccinated Inf.	19 years Ages 29-39 years
35 to 45 years	5	1 Unvaccinated 4 Vaccinated Inf.	
45 to 65 years	15	3 Unvaccinated 12 Vaccinated Inf	
Total	156	135 Unvaccinated 21 Vaccinated	

It will be seen that the youngest person affected with the disease who had been successfully vaccinated (in infancy) was over 19 years of age.

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE AS AFFECTED BY OVERGROWDING CONDITIONS.

	No. of a	ring in d by	Where		
Disease.	Less than 1 person per room	1 and 2	More than 2 persons per room	case treated, Hospital or Home	Total No. of cases
Small Pox	8	107	41	Notting m and North Derby S.P Hospitals	
Scarlet Fever	4	37	2	Home	43
Diphtheria		2		Home	2
Totals	12	146	43		201

LABORATORY WORK.

The Notts. County Council undertake the Bacteriological work for testing specimens for tuberculosis and diphtheria examinations, also examinations for Bacteriological cases of Venereal Disease.

As these specimens, as a rule, are sent direct by the Practitioners of the District to the County Authorities. I have no record of the number of examinations so made.

The question has arisen in the case of specimens taken from diphtheria patients as to the delay in receipt of the reports from Nottingham. I think it would be desirable if an arrangement could be entered into with the Mansfield Corporation Laboratory to examine these specimens, as the reports can be received from them within about 12 hours.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1925

	New Cases				Dea	aths		
Age Periods in years	Pulm	onary		onary	Pulm	onary		onary
v	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	1/4	F.
0	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1								
5		1	3	1			2	
10		3	1			1		
15	1	1	1		1	1	1	
20	2	2	Promotection					
25	2	4				3		
35	1	2			1			
45	1	-1						
55		1			1	1		enginyaminya
65 and upwards	<u>-</u>				2			
Totals	7	15	5	1	5	6	3	Nil

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No case of tuberculosis of employees in the milk trade was notified during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925 (SECTION 62).

Removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

No action taken or required.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN

Mansfield Woodhouse Urban District, 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males.	Females
All Causes	73	68
Small-pox Measles Scarlet fever Whooping Cough		
Diphtheria	4	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system Other tuberculous diseases Cancer, malignant disease Rheumatic Fever	5 3 8 1	6 9 1
Diabetes Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c. Heart Disease Arterio-sclerosis Brouchitis	1 3 4 1 5	3 5 1 10
Pneumonia (all forms) Other respiratory diseases Ulcer of stomach or ducdenum Diarrhœa &c. under 2 years Appendicitis and Typhlitis	8 2	5 1 1
Cirrhosis of liver	1	6
Congenital Debility and malformation, premature birth Suicides	8 1 8 9	5 2 12
Special Causes (included above) Poliomyelitis		
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age Total Hiegitimate	14.	12
Total Births	142 5	164 - 157 - 7 - 480

Birth=rate, Death=rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole e towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	England and Wales - 18	PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	BIRTH-
	2 10 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	1,000 PAL ULA-	TH-
	12.2	All Causes.	<u>}-</u> -
0.01	0.01	Enteric Fever.	NNUAI
0.00	0.00	Small-pox.	DEA
0.15	0.13	Measles.	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population
0.02	0.03	Scarlet Fever.	HA HI
0.14	0.15	Whooping Cough	1,000
0.06	0.07	Diphtheria.	Рори
0.31	0.32	Influenza.	LATIO
0.38	0.47	Violence.	
7.6	8.4	Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years.)	RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS
67	75	Total Deaths under One Year.	ER THS.
93.0	92.1	Causes of Death Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Percentage of Total Deates
5.9	6.9	Inquest Cases.	NTAGI DEAT
1.1	1.0	Uncertified Causes of Death	HS.

MANSFIELD WOODHOUSE URBAN DISTRICT.

1.—Inspection of Factories. Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of					
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.			
1.	2.	3.	4.			
Factories (including Factory Laundries) Workshops	19	None	None			
(including Workshop Laundries) Workplaces	26	1	,,			
(other than Outworkers' premises.)	6	None	,,			
Total	٥١	1	None			

MANSFIELD WOODHOUSE URBAN DISTRICT.

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M., Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts;—* Want of cleanliness		1		
Total	1	1		

^{*}Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

(Signature) E. H. HOUFTON, M.D.

Medical Officer of Health.







